a second router module having N2 signal input terminals, an expansion input terminal and (M2+1) output terminals, including M2 signal output terminals and an expansion output terminal, the second router module including a means for routing a signal received at any one of the N2 signal input terminals selectively to any one or more of the (M2+1) output terminals and for routing a signal received at the expansion input terminal selectively to any one or more of the M2 signal output terminals,

and wherein the expansion output terminal of the first router module is connected to the expansion input terminal of the second router module and the expansion output terminal of the second router module is connected to the expansion input terminal of the first router module.

12.   (Amended) A routing switch comprising n routers (n>1) and wherein each router comprises p router modules (p≥1) each having a plurality of signal input terminals, a plurality of signal output terminals, (n-1) expansion input terminals and (n-1) expansion output terminals and including a means for routing a signal received at any one of its signal input terminals to any one or more of its output terminals and for routing a signal received at any one of the expansion input terminals to any one or more of the signal output terminals, and an expansion interconnect network whereby each expansion output terminal of the ith router module (i = 1...p) of the jth router (j = 1...n) is connected to an expansion input terminal of the ith router module of a router other than the jth router.

Add new claim as follows:

13.   (New) A routing switch according to claim 1, having (N1+N2) input terminals and (M1+M2) output terminals and comprising input interface circuitry connecting said (N1+N2) input terminals respectively to the N1 signal input terminals of the first router module and the N2 signal input terminals of the second router module, and output interface circuitry connecting the M1 signal output terminals of the first router module and the M2 signal output terminals of the second router module to said (M1+M2) output terminals respectively.

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